

turn over America's national security decisions to leaders of other countries.

I believe in the transformational power of liberty. I've seen it happen throughout history, and so have you. We've seen nations in our own hemisphere become free nations and allies in the sake of peace. Our parents' generation saw the transformational power of liberty when, after World War II, Japan, because we believed in democracy, Japan became a friend. You know, I sit down at the table with Prime Minister Koizumi and discuss North Korea and other issues, on how to keep the peace. I'm able to do so because my predecessor and other citizens of this great country believed that liberty could convert an enemy into a friend.

There was a lot of cynics and doubters in those days. You can understand why. Japan was a fierce enemy. I mean, people couldn't envision how liberty could transform a society. But there were fellow countrypeople of ours who did believe that then. And today we sit down with an enemy and talk about the peace. See, that's what's taking place. Liberty is powerful. Someday an American President is going to be sitting down with a duly elected leader of Iraq talking about keeping the peace, talking about—[*ap- plause*].

A free Afghanistan and a free Iraq will set powerful examples in a neighborhood that is desperate for freedom. Women who long for freedom in the Middle East will see examples of a free society in their neighborhood. Young men will realize a free society is one in which they can realize their hopes and aspirations; they don't have to strap suicide belts on. Freedom is powerful. I'll tell you why I believe so strongly in freedom. I understand it's not America's gift to the world. It's the Almighty God's gift to every man and woman in this world.

I believe we're living in a century that will be called the century of liberty. By promoting freedom at home and abroad, we'll build a safer world and a more hopeful America. Over the next 4 years, we'll continue to work hard for the American people to reform those institutions that need to change to make you more free. We'll spread ownership to every corner of this country. Opportunity will abound. We'll pass the enduring values

of our country on to a young generation. We'll be steadfast in our pursuit of freedom and peace, and we will prevail.

For all Americans, these years in our history will stand apart. There are quiet times in the life of a nation when little is expected of its leaders. This is not one of those times. This is a time that requires firm resolve, clear vision, and an unshakeable belief in the values that make us a great country.

When I traveled your State 4 years ago, I made a pledge to you. I said if I was honored to be able to hold this great office, I would uphold the honor and the dignity of the office to which I had been elected. With your help, for 4 more years I will continue to uphold the honor and the dignity of the White House.

God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:38 p.m. at the Wisconsin Exposition Center. In his remarks, he referred to Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker; Wisconsin State Senator Mary E. Panzer; Wisconsin State Representative John Gard; James R. Klauser, chair, Wisconsin Leadership Team, Bush-Cheney '04, Inc.; senior Al Qaida associate Abu Musab Al Zarqawi; Prime Minister Ayad al-Alawi of the Iraqi Interim Government; and Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of the First Lady, who introduced the President.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

August 28

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Troy, OH, where he began a bus tour.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Lima, OH. Later, he traveled to Perrysburg, OH. While en route aboard the bus, he participated in an interview with Matt Lauer of NBC's "Today" show for later broadcast.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC.

August 29

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Wheeling, WV. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

August 30

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Nashua, NH, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Julie Dube. He then participated in an interview with WMUR-TV.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Detroit, MI, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Annie Kaigler before continuing on to Taylor, MI.

In the evening, the President traveled to Dearborn, MI.

August 31

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Nashville, TN, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Andrea Martin.

Later in the morning, the President traveled to Des Moines, IA, where, upon arrival in the afternoon, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Amy Bickel. He then participated, by telephone, in a radio interview with Rush Limbaugh before continuing on to Alleman, IA.

In the evening, the President traveled to North Middleton Township, PA, where he participated in a family-style picnic and watched a softball game. He then made satellite remarks to the Republican National Convention in New York City. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

Also in the evening, the President had a telephone conversation with former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Mel R. Martinez to congratulate him on his victory in the Florida Republican Senate primary.

September 1

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with President Vladimir Putin of Russia to offer his condolences and

support regarding recent terrorist attacks in Russia and the continuing hostage situation at a school in Beslan, Russia. He also had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Konstandinos Karamanlis of Greece to congratulate him on the success and safety of the recent Olympic games in Athens, Greece. Later, he had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Columbus, OH, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Carol Hribar.

In the evening, the President traveled to Elmhurst, NY, where, at the Italian Charities of America, he visited with firefighters and supporters. Later, he traveled to New York City.

The President declared a major disaster in Indiana and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding on July 3–18.

The President declared a major disaster in South Carolina and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Hurricane Charley on August 14–15.

September 2

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the evening, at Madison Square Garden, the President attended the Republican National Convention. Later, he traveled to Wilkes-Barre, PA.

September 3

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. He then traveled to Moosic, PA. Later, he traveled to Milwaukee, WI, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Kathy Hawkins before continuing on to West Allis, WI.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Cedar Rapids, IA, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Lisa Gibney. He then made remarks at a rally.

In the evening, the President traveled to Cleveland, OH.

The President declared a major disaster in Virginia and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, and tornadoes associated with Tropical Depression Gaston beginning on August 30 and continuing.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released August 30

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Released August 31

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary on the terrorist attacks in Russia

Statement by the Press Secretary on the terrorist attacks in Beersheva, Israel

Released September 1

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Indiana

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to South Carolina

Released September 2

Advance text: Remarks by the President at the 2004 Republican National Convention

Fact sheet: Strengthening Education and Job Training Opportunities

Fact sheet: Increasing Affordable Housing and Expanding Homeownership

Fact sheet: President Bush Proposes New "Opportunity Zones"

Fact sheet: President Bush's Plan To Make Health Care More Affordable

Released September 3

Statement by the Press Secretary on action by the Lebanese Parliament to amend its constitution to extend the term of the current President

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Virginia

Acts Approved by the President

NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.